



MINUTES OF MEETING: MARCH 10, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 11.28 by Hoop, K9QJS

Introductions were made with attendees stating their names and home location.

ATTENDEES:

Ed KD7TUN	Dan N6AU	Chris KD7PKE	Brian K7BLS
Peter K2SPR	Jim K2SON	Peter WA7FUS	Dave K9MRQ
Clare KE7WQY	Andy WA2TND	Budd WB7FHC	Basil N7NIX
Paul WB6CXC	Scott W7SLM	Craig AE7NA	Corky AF4PM
Larry VE6VQ	Mike N7TLL	Bill KB6CST	Kenny KU7M
Wayne WA6MPG	Hoop K9QJS	Bryan K7UDR	Dani KE7TLE
Monte N7TAU	Stu W7UW	Martha N7ZCZ	John KC7WJJ
David KK6WQ	Mike N7TLL	Maclin KI7JBA	Ken N6LOQ
Greg?			

MINUTES:

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as posted on the web site.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Dani reported that the treasury balance is \$5858.42 including income of 9 member dues transactions and expenses of \$10 for annual WA State nonprofit registration. SJCARS membership count is currently 58, a new record. A list of current club members is posted on our web site in the members section. She also explained, to clear up confusion, that nothing on our club's web page requires a password (which members know) except for files in the SJCARS Confidential files folder. Only our web administrators need to log in to author or update content.

Committee Reports:

- Hoop reported that he and others are continuing to collaborate with Friday Harbor Elementary School to develop a proposal for submission to ARISS, by April 15, in hopes of being selected for the opportunity for their students to be able to communicate with astronauts on the International Space Station sometime in the 2018 school year. Hoop has had several meetings with their teachers. They are continuing to develop an education plan for inclusion in their application for to be selected for this program. Hoop also told the teachers about the opportunity for them to apply for the ARRL (all expenses paid) Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology program.

Hoop said the principal expressed interest having a short term amateur radio club demonstration station at the school. SJCARS members present expressed interest in supporting this project.

- Bryan gave us a brief report on the club's DSTAR repeater and the Yaesu DR-X1 Fusion repeater which we purchased some time ago. Utilizing the Fusion repeater for UHF DSTAR and UDRCII (Universal Digital Radio Controller) with a Raspberry Pi3 computer the N7JN DSTAR repeaters will again be reconnected to the world-wide network of other DSTAR repeaters. This will also allow Fusion operation on UHF too. The Raspberry Pi computer will have another task too. It will host our 222 mhz Winlink gateway.

A Pi+UDRC-II has also been integrated with Bridgecomm repeaters to allow the creation of the first 220 mhz DSTAR repeaters. Kenwood sells a the TH-D74a tri-band HT with 220 mhz DSTAR.

We also got to see the pilot production model of the long awaited UDRX- 440, a 30 watt SDR radio.

He also showed us a portable UDRC+Pi aprs system complete with a touch screen. Basil has developed and integrated the software for this unit. Basil will be a presenter in a day long Friday workshop at the upcoming SeaPac convention in June.

Announcements and upcoming events:

- April meeting presenters will be Basil, N7NIX and Corky, AF4PM. Basil will tell us about Winlink gateways and packet radio done with Raspberry Pi computers. Corky is creating an Echolink node with a Raspberry Pi. He will share that with us.

- Hoop alerted us to the upcoming AM Rally <http://www.amrally.com/> on the air activity on April 1- 2. Mike mentioned that there are a few AM enthusiasts in the area.

- Hoop mentioned that the ARRL CEO had referenced the activation of San Juan Island National Park during NOPTA.

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Presentation:

Dan N6AU: At our February meeting Dan told us that he had purchased a little \$50 antenna analyzer called a MR100 from Ebay. Pending the results of his testing it he offered to demonstrate and tell us about it at this meeting. His tests were favorable and he brought the MR100 along with test results so show is. It was impressive and amazing to see what this little device will do. You can click this link to see an illustrated manual for it. [MR100 manual](#) or you can do a web search for the MR100 manual. In addition to having a small LCD screen for displaying the results of SWR, resistance, capacitance, etc readings it can also be connected via USB to a computer, a allowing the collection of interactive graphing data. The MR100 is a clone of an antenna analyzer which is also known as a Sark 100. Dan's conclusion, after testing it for a month is that it performs as well as devices costing much more and that he has certainly gotten \$50 worth of fun out of it already. Thanks for sharing this with us Dan!

- Bob Williams, co-owner and brewmaster at Friday Harbor Brewing Company gave a very interesting presentation on the art, science, and process of brewing beer. He also gave us some background and history of their brewery. He talked to us from the perspective of both a scientist and an amateur turned professional craft brewery brewmaster. We thank Bob for sharing this with us.

Stories from your ham shack:

- Peter, WA7FUS- Shared information using a BlueTooth transmitter to allow use of a pair of BlueTooth headphone with an HF radio. He made the discovery that there is, of course, a slight delay in the audio which made sending CW "interesting" with the delay in the sidetone.
- Steve, N4RVE, gave a brief update on his activities on Datawake including VR and fun with 360 panorama photography. To see some of his 360 photography search "San Juan Islands 360" on FaceBook.

SJCARS 2017 Events Calendar

- VE Session, April 22 , SJI Library: Dave K9MRQ
- Orcas Picnic Friday, May 12th - Cascade Lake picnic shelter in Moran State Park, Orcas Island
- FYI: Stanwood SCARC Flea Market and Hamfest, Stanwood, Sat. May 13, 2017

- FYI: SeaPac, June 2-4, 2017, Seaside, OR <http://SeaPac.org>
- SJI Marathon, Sunday June 18th 2017
- ARRL Field Day – June 24
- Island Rec 8.8K Loop Fun run, Saturday, Aug 19th, 2017
- International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend Sunday, Aug 20th, at Lime Kiln State Park Coordinating Ed KD7TUN <http://illw.net/>
- Lopez Picnic, Friday, September 8, 2017 – Date of this event may depend upon date of APRS Summer Gathering in Northbend. Updates will follow. Basil and fellow “Lopezians” will choose the date and will coordinate the event.
- Salmon Run – Washington State QSO Party – September 16-17
- VE Session, tentatively October 1, SJI Library: Dave K9MRQ
- FYI: TAPR Conference: Typically in September. Dates and venue not yet confirmed for 2017
- SJI Safety Fare at Mullis (staff EOC from 10 am to 2 pm), Saturday, October 14th
- Christmas Party on Friday, Dec 8th, 2017, at Mullis Fire. Coordinating TBD

Next meeting: Friday April 14, 2017 at Friday Harbor Brewing Company

The meeting was adjourned about 1:00 followed by socializing.

Respectfully submitted by: Peter Dahl, Recording Secretary (additions, corrections or comments to Peter Dahl WA7FUS@arrl.net)

**The next club meeting
will be held at 11:30 Friday March 10
at Friday Harbor Brewing Company**